IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH

The Number and Distribution of the Rebel Forces.

What the Rebels Say is to Be Their Force in the Field on the 1st of May.

THEIR FINAL AND DESPERATE STRUGGLE.

Our Baltimore Correspondence. BALTIMORS, March 19, 1862

od Armies Now in the Field-Move nth the Defence of the Left of the New Defensive Line, dr. have prepared the following statement of the strength from data which I have reason to believe correct. The aggregate is large; but it will be observed that at no one point is the strength of the rebels anything like that of he Union forces opposed to them. Even on their new s south of the Potoms: they are greatly in. McClelian's splendid army, and must rely on the etroogth of their fortifications if they expect to

been E. Johnston; headquarters, Gordon ntre-From Stannardsville on the west to the th of the Rapidan, holding Ely's Ford, Geria and the bridges at the railroad and road cross, 45,000 troops, under General Gustavus Smith, head-ther Ozanos House. House. meral Holmes, headquarters Fred-DEPARTMENT OF THE CHESAPEARS.

sad near Norfolk, General Huger
sad near Yorktown, General Magruder
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBER AND.

eral Albert S. Johnston, headquarters, Chatunooga, Tenn. r and Stephenson, in Alabama, and at

General G. T. Beauregard, headquarters Jackson, Tenn. Memphis and the forts above it on the Mississippi, at Jackson, Humboldt, and at points east of Memphis. art of North Carolina TROOPS NOT ENUMERATED ABOVE. oints on the Atlantic coast, in Texas, in and in Tennasses nerated, in Texas, Florida, &c... 20,00

eef General Jackson since he-was compelled from the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-, which furnish a key to the object he has in view and explain that part of the retreat from Manassas which 7 I stated that Jackson's headquarters had been at Stras ourg for a week past, and that he had been strongly sed from Managers during the last five days. There was reason to believe at that time that these rein of General Banks, as it was known that General Jackson ter kept him advised of all the move eral Banks. But it is evident now that th ts sent from Manassas to Jackson at Strasburg continued until Sunday, March 9, on which da ming up and burning all the railroad bridges an on their way to the northwest. The number of troops thus sent, added to those which Gene goo stready had at Strasburg, swellehis force to upwards of 25,000troops. With these he has surely down the valley of the Shenandonh ors will now be. His movement from Street on which day the last of his scouts were withdrawn from orhood of Winchester. The reason that he was pt at Streeburg so long was to watch General Banks' sents, and prevent him from making any flank assas, not only until the evacuation as complete, but also until the new line of the Rappa ook had been thoroughly organized by the proper ties of the troops.

The part now assigned to General Jackson is nothing ock, from Harrisonburg, in Rockingham county, to Lewisburg, in Greenbrier county, thus covering the ant line of railroad from Covington, in Alleghany county, to Gordonsville. The line is a most admirable on for defence. From the Flat Top Mountains on the west to the Blue Ridge, at Magasytown, on the east, it consists of an uninterrupted series of hills, which ar only diversified by mountains and mountain ridges The roads-for there are roads, such as they are-wind through mountain passes, through narrow deflies, along nost precipitous sides of mountains, with fright ful chasms below, and cross deep ravines by means of ricketty and rotten bridges. Travellers who have visited the White Sulphur Springs, the Warm Springs and the Hot Springs, all of which are situated along the western part of this line, will remember the wild grandeur of the mountain scenery and the primitive nature of th roads. Such is General Jackson's present field of operaione. If left undefended, or not sufficiently guarded, the Union army, marching in Jackson's track, could not only take possession of the railroad from Covington to Charlottesville, but could also turn the rebeis' flank at Gordonaville, and so render their second line of defence as untenable as that at Manassas became, while Lynchburg also would be within our power. Hence the im portance of that part of the line of defence entrusted General Jackson. His troops constitute, in fact, the left wing of the army of the Rappahangock

PALTIMONE, March 20, 1862 Important Document from the Rebel War Office as Rich-mond-Plans of the Rebels for the Spring Campaign-Work for General Premont-Three Hundred Thomand Men in Ohio and Michigan Ready to Spring to Arms at

His Oall-Path for the Pathfinder, de. The plans of the rebel government for the spring and summer campaign are made on a much more extended scale than those for last year. The field of operations at home is more circumscribed, but they contemplate this year offensive operations on a large scale, as well as a system of defence. The following table is an exact copy of the one used by the Military Committee of the rebe Secate in the preparation of their plans, and of which it baste. The latter were matured by the lat of March, and the officers of ent are now actively angaged in all the rn States in carrying out the details of the plat :-

	teal Population	Page Main between 18 and 45 capable of bearing arms.	Disciplined Teeps in Field Merch 1. not constitute their neight raised or six Campa of Instruction.	Additional Prosps son being rained and in Camps of Instruction, to be in the Proid by tel of May.	Potal Nember of Troups from each State which will then be in the Field.
Alabama	964,296	105,356	40,000		
Florida	435,427 149,439	15,347			9.00
Georgia	1,057,329	154,000	45,000		71,00
Kentucky	1,115,713	144,862			28,00
Louisiana	709,290	74,510			61,00
Maryland	687,034	90,208			
Mississippi.	791,396	70,120			\$9,00
Masouri	1,182,317	148,450 181,230			40,00 56,00
M. Carolina.	992,667 703,812	60,000	25,000		41.00
B. Carolina	1,109,841	145,333			50.00
Tennesses	602,432	83,986			46.00
Virginia	1,596,079	220,294			126,00
- 1 MARTIN - 1		-	The second state	and the same of the same of	-

Totals ... 12,091,6721,507,769 467,000 250,000 717,000 In the above enumeration of total population they in-classe the "tories," or "Lincolnites," as they call them in the above enumeration of total population they include the "tories," or "Lincolnites," as they call them—
the "tories," or "Lincolnites," as they call them—
the information that they were commanded by Colonia
Spruill, who so ingloriously retroited, with all bu

and, 230,000; Missouri, 592,000; Tennossee, 555,000, and rn Virginia, 280,000. This part of the popul the South, amounting to 2,197,000, deducted from the 2,000,000, would teave a secession population of above 9,394,072, which is, probably, the utmost strength of the confederacy. Of these their slaves amount to nearly ions (3,953,524, having increased from 3,200,000 since 1850), and their fighting men to a million and a half (1,507,769), leaving of white non-combatants four and a half millions (4,432,779), to attend to the plantations and transact all other business, in connection with the slaves. The above enumeration of ablabodied men land, Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia who are Unionats, whether they are serving in the Union army men, the South will still have at home, of men capable of bearing arms, nearly as many more-namely 601,269

The wisdom displayed by the President in assigning to General Fremont the department which has been created for him will be evident from a consideration of the ter itory embraced in the department, and the work to be and, besides, all those other parts of Virginia that lie west of the Alleghany Mountains; the eastern parts of famous Cumberland Gap, Knoxville, and the important Virginia, to Knoxville, and the entire States of Ohio and fichigan. The two last named States are intensely abolitionist. Michigan, the home of "blood letting" Cha fer, has a fighting population of ablebodied men of 154,000. Oblo—the hame of Ben. Wade, who told the President his command, that he was within half a mile of Hell-Michigan has only 24,000 men in the army, and has coaequently 130,000 fighting men at home. The great ma najority of the 130,000 who are at home are abolition in the army, while 373,000 of ner ablebedied popula tion remain at home. Of the 67,000 Ohio troops in the field it is well known that a majority are dem while of those who stay at home at least 180,000 voted stay at home abolitionists in Ohio and Michigan will of thousands; and if they display half the alacrity now in fighting for him that they did in sigging about free seon have an army of 200,600 men in the field and a re

follow in the track of the victorious Un on army of last fall up the left bank of the Big Sandy river, in Kentucky to Prestonville, Pikeville, Manchester and Barbour ville, and thence strike for the Cumberland Gap He will find no enemy until he approaches the las ter point. There, however, he will find that parof the rebel army posted for the defence of " the De partment of the Cumberland," and there he will have to fight. The rebels will be in strong force there, for they will dispute the entrance to Eastern Tor nessee with all their power. But if Fremont's abolition soldiers fight bravely the result cannot be doubted. The rebel armies will be swept like chaff before the wind ion of the line of the great Southern Railroad and he can cut off the retreat of the rebel army in Eastern Virginia. The rebels will then be compelled to evacua Virginia by way of the North Carolina railroads. But t Burnside takes possession of those roads the rebel army in Virginia will be caught in a trap, and forced to surrenter-all owing to Fremont. Yet some of his friends a with old Abe, because, as they say, there is nothing in it. If Frement has the genius his friends claim for him he will organize his army and find his work.

serve of another 100,000 to call upon in a few months.

The work for Fremont to do is nothing less than to

THE BURNSIDE EXPEDITION.

Operations at Beaufort and Newbern.

The Beleagured Garrison of Fort Macon.

WRECK OF THE ALBEMARLE

THE UNION ARMY READY FOR WORK.

THE SOUTH RETURNING TO LOYALTY,

Our Newbern Correspondence.

NEWHERN, N. C., April 3, 1862. ship-Its Effects-Captain Messinger, of Gen. Foster', Staff, Loses His Horse at the Battle of Newbern-Iv resting Statement of How it Occurred by a Rebel Pre moner-The Rebel Forces Marching to Retake Newbern Their Advance Guard within Fifteen Miles of Ou Pickets-A Skirmish with Their Cavalry-The Robel General Branch Disgraced and Superseded by Genera Rancom-Who General Ransom is-Our Troops Getting Paid Off - Disposition of the Contrabands-The Weather A Grand Review of all the Troops by General Burnside-Sailing of the Gunboat Hussar with Sick Prisoners for Washington, N. C. - Incidents of the Passage - The Steamer Alternacie Injured by Striking on Concealed Stakes in the Pamlico River-She is Run Ashore-The Hebels in the Vicinity Attempt to Capture Her-They Are Foiled in Their Undertaking-Mysterious Movements of a Schooner de. de.

To record affairs in Newbern since the late eventful ight would be like reporting the progress of affairs at the Special Sessions in New York-i. c., a succession of trials. reprimands and rebuxes for trivial cases, in which the wine was originated by an overweening love for the 'crathur

An efficient provost marshalship has been established but, notwithstanding, the tars from the gunbouts and own soldiers manage to obtain an odd "drop," so that the guard, at "close of dewy eve," has occasionally to consign a disciple of Bacches to that receptacle valgarly designated the guardhouse.

I would not wish to convey from the above few lines that there is anything like disorder in town. On the contrary, upon the truth of the proverb that exceptions prove the rule, I cite these few instances to show the

almost unswerving and invariable exactitude with which the prohibitions of our Provost Marshal are observed. And while I am speaking of the Provest Marshal, who s a most estimable gentleman, Captain Daniel-Dan for short-Messinger, Quartermaster of General Foster's staff. I cannot help relating how he lost a valuable horse upen the occasion of our capture of this place. When the troops landed, on the morning of the 14th ult., Captain Messinger sent his horse ashore in charge of an orderly, who was instructed to take particular care not enly of the animal, but of the valuable saddle and other accourrements thereunte belonging, together with other property of the Captain's. A change in orders directed Captain Messinger to another part of the field of opera-Captain Messinger to another part of the field of operations of that day, and finally the orderly, with his borse,
terraed up missing. What had become of him could
hardly be conjectured; but at least both man and beast
were inseing. In the course of events Newbern was
captured; Captain Messinger was appointed Provost Marchal, and a few days since a coaple
of rebeis, who had been made prisoners by eur
pickets, came up before him for adjudication upon
their case. During the progress of the examination
Captain Messinger inquired at random if she exemy had
captured a horse belonging to the Unica forces. The rebein replied aimost in a breath that they had—one belonging to Captain Dan. Messinger. The mystery of the disappearance was explained. The unitries orderly, by
some means, fell into the hands of the rebel pickets and
had employed his leisure moments in prinning upon
every strap of the borse the name of the owner, so that
when captured he made the name of the owner, so that when captured he made the name of "Captain Dan Measinger" as famous among the rebein as it is among us for
an efficient administration of his provest marshauship.
But now for the latest items of sewafrom this point.
It is thought that the rebels, actuated by a hallucination that they can whip the forces of General Burnside,
force, with the intention of retaining Newbern, and are
now strongly posted as Kingston, about thirty miles
from here, in the direction of Goldaborough. Four
of their regiments, consisting most probably of the
Nineteenth, Twenty-fith, Thirty-first and Thirtythird North Carolina regiments, have advanced

mounted hose cavalry," at the fight which resulted in he capture of this place.

Your readers will perhaps remember that Brigadier ioneral Lawrence O'B. Branch, "who was never known o smile" except it was upon invitation at the bar of Willard's, in Washington, during his connection with the

Now, the enemy's general's name is an ominous one but, like the declaration of the oracle when consulted by Jarius, which prophesied that if he did semething or another "a great kingdom would be destroyed," it portends as much danger to one side as the other; so that like the Western jury, we can bring in a verdict of "quits." I had almost forgotten to mention that this General Ransom is a graduate of West Point, and previous to the outbreak of the robellion was a captain of cavairy in the regular army.

By the arrival on Sunday, at Hatterns Inlet, of several vessels from the North, we have received gratifying intelligence of the progress of affairs in Virginta. Two of the steamers—the Starp' the South and the Marion—were among the number, to whose gentlemanly communders—(aptains Woodhull and Phillips—the regimental officers on board would convey their most sincere and heartfelt thanks for courtoous treatment during the passage down from Raltimore.

Majors Sherman, Vedder and Folsom, paymasters of

mental officers on board would convey their most sincere and heartfelt thanks for courtoous treatment during the passage down from Ratimore.

Majors Sherman, Vedder and Folsom, paymasters of the United States Army, arri- d here a few days since, and have commenced to pay off the treops.

The negroes, or "contrabands," as they are better known in comp, have been organized into gangs of aborces, and are quite obcerful in their new position. They recove the stipulated sum of 38 per month for their corvices, and, to distinguish them from the domestics and servants of families in town, weser a white band on their hass, tabelled with the words:—"United States service." I cannot conclude without dwelling upon that hackneyed topic, the weather. While up North you are wading through slush and snow, and suffering from dipheria, down here we enjoy all the luxuriant beauties of far advanced apring. Halmy breezes, budding fruit trees, flowers in full bloom, gardens redolent with the scent of roses—such is Newbern at the preject moment. What a pity that the retreating rebols will take us away from the contemplation, if not onlowment, of these pleasures. We had a grand review of all the troops this afternoon by General Burnside and the brigade commanders. On Sanday evening last the guaboat Hussar was despatched to Washington with some eighty sick prisoners, including three leastenants, who had been released upon parole not to take up arms until exchanged. In formation that they were going had been previously sent to Washington under a flag of truce, with a request that the enemy should have a steamer in Pamilice river ready to take them from the Hussar. Re the rebols Inad no

to washington under a flag of truce, with a request that the enemy should have a steamer in Pamilic river ready to take them from the Hussar. But the rebels had no vessel, as the little ansamer Albemarle accompanied the Hussar, and the party came to anchor about nine miles below the town on Monday morning. The Albemarle then took the prisoners on board and started to go up the river, but had not proceeded far when she struck upon several rows of stakes which were concealed just beneath the surface of the water. Decoy stakes were visible above the water some distance further on, and led to the belief that there were none lower down in the channel.

The Albemarle, after striking, was immediately backed off, when it was discovered that she was leaking very fast. Whoreupon she was headed for shore and run up in shoal water. Here she settled, and the men were sent ashore on the following day.

But the night did not pass without incidents, thrilling enough to make them worthy of narration. Washington has the Union flag flying over it; but the secession sentiment is still strong with many of the people in the town and vicinity. While the Albemale was aground the robels thought an opportunity was afforded them of burning or retaking her (she was captured at Nowbern by our forces), and dering the night several boats filled with men were observed putting off from the shore. As they approached, Lieutonant Hedden, who was in charge of the Albemarle, challenged them three times, and, receiving no reply, ordered the guard to fire, whereupon the suspicious crafts turned about and went towards the shore in a most precipitate manner. Owing to the darkness of the night it was impossible to ascertain how many were killed and wounded in the boats; but the well directed fire of the guard proved effective enough in driving off the marauders from their intended purpose. During the night a schooner was observed coming down the river under full sail, and the lights were out on board the Albemarle. As she approached a light was accident

ier.

The rebels up in the vicinity of Washington need a lesson, at la Rosnoke and Newbern, to make them keep quiet. Were it not for the presence of the gunboats abroast of the twn thay would no doubt dare to take down the Union flag, which, by the way, is nailed over the Court House.

Our Beaufort Correspondence

Trip from Newbern to Beaufort-Going Up Stoeum' Houses by the Roadside—Tracks of the Robel Army—Bridge -Caroli na City-Morehead City and Fort Macon-An Intercepte Mail-Colones White-Communication Between Be and Morehrad City-English Vessels in Port-Affairs at eaufort-Arrest of the Collector of the Port of Beau

fort-A Union Sermon-Advance Towards Fort Macon-Our Blockading Flort, de., de. In my last letter I told you of the expedition that has eft the town of Newbern for the neighborhood of Beaufort; but at the time t was but partially acquainted with the full particulars. Since that time I have had an opportunity of obtaining valuable information, gained by that most storn of masters, experience. Determined take as little hearsay as possible, I stepped on board the teamer Union, Captain Chambers, and found there Lieut Flagler, ordnance officer of Gen. Burneide's staff, who was going down to Beaufort to arrange matters regarding the capture of Beaufort and the reduction of Fort Macon nents stationed below, and three or four other memb of the press. It may be well to remark here that the steamer Union has a happy facility for going almost any where where there are a few inches of water. She wa consequently chosen to take the mail and the few passengers up to a station where some few coldiers are stationed, situated about five miles from the mouth of Siocum's creek. It will be re-collected that the landing of the troops in the march to Newbern was made at the mouth of this creek We started, after some little detention, on Thursday afternoon, and after travelling some twelve miles reach ed the mouth of the creek. The night was clear and starlight, and the run up to the station was pleasant at most beyond description. Slocum's creek is not much more than one hundred feet wide, and the boughs of the trees, as we passed up, were sweeping against the sides of the steamer. We were not long in arriving at our destination; but the prospect was not pleasant for a tanding; so I concluded to remain on the boat ail night and push on towards Beaufort in the morning. In the early part of the morning I and some of the others slung our knape-cks and prepared for a long and tedious march of some twenty miles to Morehead City, situated just opposite Beaufort, and within easy range of the guns of Fort Macon. On first landing we heard the rather un pleasant intelligence that there were rebel pickets in the vicinity, and that some of our men had been pursued by a party of rebel cavalry; but, owing to the formation of the road, they were able to escape. Nothing discour aged by this, four of us determined to push on, although only protected by a couple of pistols. The frst station at which we arrived was Havelock, distant from Beaufor about nineteen miles. Here we found Captain Arnold, of the Fifth Rhode Island regiment, who, with his company was quarding the station and some military stores placed We had some slight hopes of being shie to obtain a band car here to carry us down to Morehead City No such thing was to be had, however, and, with the fear of the rebel pickets before me, I started to walk to New port, the next station, a distance of eight miles. Nothing of interest occurred on the way, if I may except some econsistal visits to the small farmhouses that I found or the way. They all complained bitterly of the treatment they received at the hands of the rebel troops, and to a man were a mest ultra-Culon in their continents; still behind all this, you could perceive a strong dislike to the Northern soldiers, which the mhabitants could not, and, in many testances, aid not, with to bide. After passing over the eight miles is safety, I arrived at the villige of Nov port, where the sale of the rebel army vere clearly discernible, to the shape of a few burned buildings, and discernible, in the shape of a few burned buildings, and the total destruction of a railroad bridge one bundred and eighty feet long, which crossed the creek just orlow Newport station. The description of this bridge was a great inconvenance to us, inasmuch as it prevented the passage of hand cars with ammunition, stutery, &c.; but we are not in the habit of being atopped by human obstacles, and General Burarde determined that the best way to get ever this difficulty was to have the bridge rebuilt. Accordingly, Major Wright, of the Fifth Rhode island, and Mr. Field, a well known bridge builder, with a small party of mechanics, were deputed to reconstruct the bridge. It was expected that its building would occupy at least two weeks but Major Wright, who is by pridession a civil engineer, and his assistants worked so filigently that before the end of one week it was complised, and on the morning of the 29th uit. It was ready for the passage of cars. The persons connected with the rebuilding of this bridge are deserving of the bighest praise for their patience and untiring industry.

About a quarter of a mile below the village of Newport is situated the barracks lately occupied by some of the rebel troops. There is accommodation for fully three thousand men, and the houses are all unit with ore and a regard for the comfort of the met that was really surprising. The troops would have bound their bouses, but when they left to march up to the defence of Newbern they confidently expected to come back victorious and once more take up their quarters in their old camp. At present there is stationed there the First pittation Fifth Russle Island Volunteers, under the milithe total destruction of a railroad bridge one bundred and

tary command of Captain Wheeler. Major Wright's time being entirely taken up by the building of the bridge I have spoken of. The men have a great deal of hard work to do, but minage to got through it with cheerfulness, and consequently with less weariness. The health of the battalion is remarkably good, and is, from all appearances, tikely to remain 80. After remaining a short time there, I obtained a piace, through the kindness of Major Wright, on a hand car bound down to Carofina City and Morehead City. After a most pleasant trip of eight miles I got to the first place monitioned above, where General Parks has his headquartors. Visiting the General, I obtained a pass through all the lines of the Third brigade. Here also has the torch of the incendiary be n at work; a very time building, lately occupied as a hotel, was destroyed, together with some small buildings. It is confidently stated that these buildings and the bridge I have mentioned before were destroyed by a party of mon that came over from Fort Macon for that especial purpose. These promiscuous burnings do not appear to please the people by any means; but the soldiers engaged in the wholesale destruction care but little for the feelings of those whose property they are destroying. Hotels and large buildings are of course burned to prevent them from being used by our troops for barracks; but they are only injuring thesselves by such acts, as we always go prepared to camp out wherever we may be.

I left Carolina City at about eleven o'clock, and ran down three miles further to Morehead City. The great object of interest here is Fort Macon, which lies at a distance of about one mile and a quarter from the railroad wharf, its guns completely commanding the town. It is needless for me to say anything of the geographical position or atreagth of the feet, as you are already well acquainted with both; but some very interesting faets relative to the condition of affairs there came to the lotter by Major Allies, military commander in that oily, which disoloue

guns or any great bodily exertion entirely out of the question. Colonel White, the commander of the fort, bears anything but an enviable reputation, if I am to judge by the romarks passed upon him here, and he is rendering himself doubly obnoxious just at present by following up a bad habit he has got of firing at anything in the shape of a boat that attempts to cross from Morehead City to Beaufort. By this means he has rendered the passage over an extremely dangerous one, as his guns are so well trained that a row boat, even at the distance of a naile and a half, allords an excellent target. The night is chosen for crossing Bogue Sound, when there is less chance of being discovered or of being hit than during the glaring light of day. Colonel White is a greatuate of West Point, and is an old companion of some of the officers that will be engaged in the reduction of the fort. By the sid of my glass I perceived a number of guns en berbette, upon which floated defiantly the rebel colors. Thoughts of Fort Samter entered my mind, and I could not help thinking that an almost similar scene to that enacted in charleston harbor would shortly take place here. Men were plainly seen walking about the beach, and the sentries could be perceived walking their rounds, peacefully, but how long to remain so Providence only knows.

Lying at Morehead City are two large English ships, with their national colors flying at the masthead. One is the Alliance, Captain De Fortess, and the other is the Condor, Captain Gooding. Both vessels have been spoken of before, and the public in your columns. They at present have a guard placed on board of them; both are heavily laden with turpentine, and are all ready to put to sea at any moment. Considerable surprise was manifested at the sight of the English flag, and at its being allowed to foat on vessels that have run the blockade; but of course the officers here understand their duty, and comment is unnecessary. The state of affairs at Beaufort, at the present time, will no doubt be found pa seen. Shortly after the Union roops left Morehead City to proceed to Beaufort, the people of the town could be seen gathering at the piers watching their movements and when the soldiers landed they were received with open arms by the citizens, and everything done that could be to make them countortable.

seen gathering at the piers watching their movements; and when the soldiers landed they were received with open arms by the citizens, and everything done that could be to make them comfortable.

The citizens, instead of running from their homes, as had been the case in other places, remained in the town, and the consequence has been that the greatest confidence exists between the people and the soldiers. The office of Major Allen is kept crowded all day by persons coming in to take the oath of allegisance, but few being required to take the cath of neutrality, owing to their Union sentiments. One perticularly pleasing feature at Beaufort is the number of ladies that may be found there. It is quite flattering to see such a strong evidence of good feeling existing among the fair sex towards us, as they are usually the most rabid in their expressions of hatred to us, relying, no doubt, for protection upon the well known reputation of Northern man for respect to all women, no matter in what condition or state of society they may be. Invitations to partake of the hospitality of some of the leading citizens of Beaufort have been freely extended to our officers, and other evidences of kindness have been made apparent on every side. In the Post Office was found a large and handsome American flag, which the soldiers at once raised in the air, and it is now finding, where it should have been always, over the Custom House. Speaking of the Custom House reminds me that the Collector of the Port, Mr. Josiah Beil, made off with himself the other day, carrying with him the immense sum of two thousand dollars in secession money. Major Allen was desiroes that he should remain under his charge, and accordingly sent a small datachment of men to capture him, which, after a sight search, they did. Major Allen brought him over the river in the evening, and handed him over to the tender mercies of General Parks.

Perhaps one of the most sudden conversions from the evis of secessionism to true Union principles that I shall have to reco

from the same purpose a trion use upso the same minister.

His serinon was one that would have done credit to one
of our staunch old preachers. He advocated in the
strongest terms the stern necessity of supporting a government, and that government the United States. The
church was crowded with Indies and gentlemen, and the
sentiments expressed from the putpit appeared to be

sentiments expressed from the pulpit appeared to be echoed in the hearts of the congregation. It is only in the interior of the State that the spirit of rebellion reigns supreme, as there the inhabitants are less acquainted with us, and have been led to regard us in the hight of robbers and invalers. On the coast and in the principal towns, where they have had an opportunity of being brought into close connection with us, the resling is altogether different, and it is there that the timen sentiment is seeking a place to show itself, and it is only necessary to set the ball in motion to cause an entirely different feeing in the hearts of the people.

On the 29th ult, a number of troops were landed on the long attent of sand running to the southwest of the form entirely distorent feeling in the hearts of the people.

On the 29th uit, a number of troops were landed on the long strip of sand running to the southwest of the fort, and several cows belonging to Fort Macon were captured and now belong to us. This is a most serious loss to those inside, as they are saidly in need of fresh provisions, their supplies being entirely cut off. I made an attempt to cross Bogue Sound the other day in a small said boat; but, after cruising about for an hour ser two, vamily seeking for a landing place, I had to return. At one time I was within less than three-quarters of a mile of the fort, and I expected every moment to see a hash from one of the guns of the fort, followed by a messenger I was hardly prepared to meet, but my good lock prevailed, or Colonel White thought me a fee inworthy of his steel, for I was exemitted to return unmolested. The citizens are not allowed to sail about by our commander, for fear that they might convey information to the fort, so that the robe officers in firing at boats feel very certain that there is no danger of inguring their own people. There are at present on blockading service outside Beaufort the following vessels:—Chippeus, State of Georgia, Albairess and the Gemabok. They will be valuable aid one of these days, and no doubt will be called upon. The stars and bars that now float over the wails of Fort Macon cannot long remain there, while the glorious old Stars and Stripes are moving in all directions around it. I trust soon to be able to date my letters from Fort Macon, with a full description of its downfail.

Our Newbern Correspondence. NEWBERN, N. C., April 3, 1862.

Journey from Beaufort to Newbern-Railroad Travel is the Old North State-An Alarm in Camp-The Rebe Cacalry Lurking Around-The Battle Field of Newtern,

I left Beaufort on the 31st uit. to return to Newbernexpecting some excitement up there in the shape of an attack on the place by the rebel forces; but up to the present time no such demonstration has taken place.

From Beaufort I went up to Carolina City, distant about four miles, and there I was just in time to meet the free train of cars that came over the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad since the occupation of the road by ou troops. It consisted of two large platform cars that the rebels had not destroyed, and six small hand cars. It was heavily loaded with military stores, &c , the weight being equal to sincteen tons. The motive power was horses and a squad of mee on the hand cars. The train crossed the bridge at Newport that was rebuilt by Major Wright and Mr. Field with safety, not the slightest vibration being perceptible. It is now fully as strong if not stronger, than it was before.

I obtained a hand car and proceeded to Newport where the Fifth Rhode Island are encamped; and as it was late I concluded to remain all night and proceed towards Newbern in the morning—a conclusion I was net sorry in making, as the sequel will show. I have already referred to the presence of rebel cavairy on the reads, and the consequent dauger of travelling without a guard; but I never realized it so fully as on the night of the district. The officers were just going to supper when Lieut. Goodwin, the officer of the guard, came in from the pickets with the information that a farmer, who had taken the oath of alleginate, had come to the camp for protection, stating that some lifty rebel cavairy had come to his house, some five miles distant, and threatened to burn it, and otherwise destroy his property. Major Wright had the pickets doubled, and other precautions taken to prevent a surprise, as we had intimation that one hundred and fifty of these fellows intended to make a dash into the camp at night, and make short work of us. This was desmed sufficient, and the mand quiet fell upon the camp, but at about eight o'clock we were all startled by the discharge of two guos—a signal of Newbern in the morning-a conclusion I was not sorr;

arms and stationed in line of battle. There was no quitoning, no running to and fro, but like veterans, as it are, every man was in his place and ready to meet a series of the many and a force was sent out under Lisuten Goodwin to reconneitre. Various reports came in, contradicting the other; but sufficient was gleaned know that we stood in danger of an attack. At ab know that we stood in danger of an attack. At about time o'clock the men were dispersed, with instructions to be in readiness at a moment's notice to repai an attack. Nothing of importance, however, occurred during the night, and it was not until the morning that we as certained the true state of affairs. At eight o'clock Lieutenant Goodwin came into camp, after remaining out all night with the pickets. We then learned that a number of rebei pickets or scouts had been seen and tired at ty our man, but their real strength was unknown. Together with the mon that Lieutenant Goodwin brought back with him were twelve contrabands, who had escaped from their mistress, a Mrs. Bell, who owns a plantation twelve miles below, on Bogue Sound. There were saven mea, three women and two babies—all healthy. Inselooking hands. They were marched up to Major Wright's quarters, who, after inspecting them, sand asking such questions as he thought proper, assigned them quarters. They were in an awfully ragged state, having barely clothes enough to cover them. They were comfortably provided for, and the men were set to work.

The morning after the siarm, i, in company with the surgeon of the Fifth Rhode Island, and a tew others, started for this place, a hand car our mode of conveyance. On the way we stopped and once more went ever the field where our mea urea such a glorious victory. The place looked quite natural, and a number of graves of our gallast fallows remain there, allend witnesses of that the rest of the way to merit any notice; but probably before you research the facility.

THE FIRST SIEGE OF YORKTOWN,

Interesting Details of the Investment of the Town by the Americans and French in October, 1781.

The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Gen. Washington.

The Final Blow of the Revolution of 1776,

&c.,

Soon after the arrival of Lord Cornwallis at William Clinton made a requisition of part of the troops hould be sent to New York without delay, and inform ing Lord Cornwallis at the same time of the danger to mbined attack which was expected from the French and Americans. But to understand the proper counse tion of the great events that followed it is necessary to take a retrospect of the remote causes which produced

mairs of America in general seemed at this time to be in our state, and the contest on the point of coasing essary to rouse afresh the energy of the people and to estore the declining state of their affairs. The Congress and been disappointed in their expectations of the co essively; but soon after the fall of Charleston, in May Court of France. A subsidy of six millions of livres was granted, and the King became their security for ten therlands. At the same time a naval co-operation was promised, and a conjunct expedition against their comnon foes projected. In the month of March, 1781, M. de Graffe sailed from

Brest with twenty-five sail of the line, several thousan and forces and a large convoy, amounting to more than we hundred ships. A small part of this force was destined for the East Indies, but M. de Graffe, with the greater part, sailed for Martinique. The British Admirals fleet, but a junction between the force of M. de Graffe and eight ships of the line and one of fifty guns, which were previously at Martinique and St. Domingo, was nevertheless effected. The British fleet in the West In for the protection of the ships, which were employed in carrying to England the booty that had been taken at St Bustatius, and, by the combination of the French fleets in the West Indies, they had a decided superiority. M. de Graffe, in the beginning of August, sailed with a large convoy destined for Europe, and after seeing it out of strived there on the 30th of the same month. M. de Barras, appointed to the command of the French fleet then in Rhode laland, had arrived at Boston in the month of May with despatches for Count de Rochambeau. On the 21st of May a conference took place at Weathersfield, to Connecticut, between the American and French generals. At this interview it was agreed between them to carry into execution the attempt against New York, which they had meditated the preceding year, if their forces, when assembled, should be found equal to the enterprise; but in all events, it was their determination, upon the ar rival of the Count de Grade, to strike a blow at one or other of the British posts, where success was most rea-sonably to be expected. Letters were addressed Z General Washington to the executive officers of the New England States, requiring them to fill up the battalions composing his army, and to have six thousand two hundred militia in readiness to march whenever he should call for them. The letters written by General Washington to Congress, after his interview with the French generals, fell into the hands of Sir Henry Clinton and in consequence of the information they contained which alarmed him for the safety of New York, he made a requisition of part of the troops under Lord Cornwallts

But the situation of Lord Cornwallis near the Capes of Virginia, the arrival of a reinforcement of three thousand German troops from Europe to New York the superior strength of that garrison, the backwardness of the States in filling up their battalions and embodying their militia, and the recent intelligence from Count do Graffe that his destination was fixed to the Chesapeake. produced a total change of the plan of the campaign General Washington had assembled his army at Peeks. kill, and marching from thence to White Plains, was there joined, on the 6th of July, by the Count de Rochambeau with the French troops from Rhode Island.

On the 24th of August, the allied American and French armes, instead of proceeding on their original project sgainst New York, directed their march towards Vir nia. The appearance of an intention to attack New York had, nevertheless, been kept up; and, while this deception was played off, the army crossed the North river and proceeded on their march uninterrupted.

Lord Cornwallis having received orders, as has already been mentioned, to send part of his troops to New York he immediately prepared to comply with Sir Henry Clinton's requisition; and as, after the embarkation of those troops, he was of opinion that the force which remained would not be sufficient to enable him to remain at Williamsburg, he resolved to pass James river and retire to Portsmouth. Accordingly, on the 4th of July the British army marched from Williamsburg and encamped on a piece of ground that covered a ford into the island o lamestown. In this encampment the British army remained, whilst on the 5th and 6th their bat-horses and baggage were passed the river. The Marquis de Lafayette, thinking that the main body of the British army had already crossed the river, advanced by forced marches to strike a blow at the rear guard. On the 6th of July, towards sunset, Lafayette, with about nine hundred Continentals, six hundred militia and some artillery, passed a morass and formed in front of the British encampment. The British immediately advanced to the attack in two lines. The right of the Americans being composed of militia only, were quickly put to flight, but on the left the British were opposed by the Pennsylvania line and a party of Continentals, with tw pieces of cannon. On that side the action, while it lasted. was sharp and bloody. The Americans, however, after a severe contest, were at last obliged to give way and retreat across the morass. The British horse were ready to pursue, but the darkness of the night prevented all

The British army, baring passed James river, pro-

none destined for New York took place; but before the from Sir Henry Clinton which counters ing, and at the same time directed Cornwallis to tablish a defensive post for the protection of ships of th ine, either at Old Point Comfort, on Hampton Roads, or on Old Point Comfort, according to the report of the en when lying at anchor within it, and the port of Ports hipping, Lord Cornwallis had no other option than to York and Gloucester, the only places that remained capable of affording the requisite protection to wacuated Portsmouth, and on the 22d of August he had all his forces concentrated at York and Glos

peake he was immediately joined by an efficer from the nformation received from this officer, de Graffe immedi conveying un James river the French land force bro rom the West Indies, that it might form a junction w Graffe's line of battle ships and several frigates were on in Lynhauen bay. The troops brought from the West Indies, consisting of three thousand two hundred mon, under the command of the Marquis 4e St. Simon, sees after formed a junction with the Contin the Marquis de Lafayette, and the whole to

Sir George Rodney, who com in the West Indies, seems to have been persuaded that it was de Graffe's intention to proceed to the Bay of Chesspeaks. Upon the approach of the hurric therefore, be detached Sir Samuel Hood to North Amer then at New York. This reinforcement arrived at Sandy Hook on the 28th of August. Admiral Graves, who had succeeded Admiral Arbuthnot upon his dops England in the month of July, took the command of the from the Hook on the 31st of August. Before his de madron under W de Barras at Rhede Island had saile on the 26th; and it not being known then that the Cou de Graffe had already arrived in the Chesapeake, and tha the fleet under his immediate command was superior to that of Admiral Graves, great expectations were tained that the British fleet would fall in with one or w other of the French squadrons.

sailed from Rhode Island for the Chesapeaks about the place; but in order to avoid the British fleet he had taken a circuit by Bermuda. In the meantime Admiral Grave proceeded on to the Capes of Virginia, where he arrived on the 5th of September, and, finding the French fleet fair, the British fleet entered to offer it battle. But as fleet, from an apprehension for the Rhode Island squadron, which be expected, and to gain more sea room, he were now steering to the eastward in a line nearly our o'clock in the afternoon a partial action co which continued until night put an end to it. No shi very pear. But the French Admiral, although it was several times in his option, from having gained the wind, vring near the mouth of the Chesapeake, M. de Barras apes, and the Count de Graffe, on the 10th, bearing awa n safety at auchor, with fourteen transports laden with heavy artillery, and all sorts of military stores proper for carrying on a siege. According to the acnch, their less in this action was about two hundred and twenty men killed and wounded, including four off cers killed and eighteen wounded. The loss of men on bo the British fleet amounted to ninety killed and two hundred and forty-six wounded. The junction of th wo French fleets gave de Graffe a decided superiority and Admiral Graves, after reconncilering the position of the French fleet, and finding that they blocked up the entrance of the Chesapeake, took his departure and re-

ing on their march to Virginia, the British Commander-in. thinf at New York, with a view of making a diversion in Connecticut, and drawing General Washington's atten tion that way, detached General Arnold with a co his force to make an attempt upon New London. They passed through the Sound in transports, and landed or the morning of the 6th of September about three miles from New London in two divisions, one on cod side of the harbor. That on the side of Groton manded by Colonel Eyre, and that on the side of New no great opposition was made; a redoubt, from which the Americans had begun a cannonade, was abandoned by them upon the approach of Arnold's division, and Fore Trumbuil, which commanded the harbor, was assaulted sion of New London, after a feeble resistance from small party of Americans who were stationed there. But on the Groton side of the harbor a regular work of con siderable strongth, called Fort Griswold, was erected. It was assaulted by the division under Colonel Eyre and de fended by the Americans with the utmost bravery. They entered the works through the embrasures, and a considerable carnage ensued, until the Americans were driven from the ramparts and had ceased from all further resistance. The British had two officers and forty six soldiers killed, and eight officers, with one hundred and thirty-five soldiers wounded. Of the garrison, eighty. five were killed, including Colonel Ledyard, their com mander: sixty were wounded and seventy made prisoners. Ten or twelve ships in the harbor were burned which contained an immense quantity of European and West India goods. They also contained some gunpowder, by the explosion of which the flames were con the dwelling houses in the town, and a great part of it was consumed. A great quantity of military stores, with fifty pieces of cannon, found in the different works were also destroyed.

While the American and French troops were proceed

But the damage done to the Americans by this expediion, however great, was not of sufficient importance to stop General Washington in his progress to Virginia. It was of the utmost moment to pursue the enterprise in which he was now engaged, and it was not to be expect ed that he would abandon it for any partial consideration whatsoever.

The combined armies, after passing Philadelphtmarched to the head of Elk river, which falls jinto the Chesapeake at its interior extremity. The French troops passed from Newport to the vicinity of Yorktown, a dis tare of about five hundred miles; and, what seldom hap pens, this army, led through a foreign country, at se great a distance from their own, among a people of dif. erent customs, longuage, religion and manners, behaved with the utmost regularity. They had to pass through a country abounding in fruit, and at a time when the most delicious productions of nature, growing on and near the public highways, presented both opportunity and temptation to gratify their appetites. Yet so complete eastheir discipline, that in this long march scarcely an instance could be produced of anything being taken with out the consent of the inhabitants.

General Washington and the Count de Rochambeau left the army upon its arrival at the head of Eik, and proceeded to Williamburg, where they arrived on the 14th of September. They, with several other officers, immediately went to visit Count de Graffe, on board the Villa de Paris, and at this meeting the plan of their future operations was finally agreed on. Accordingly, the com ined forces were ordered to proceed on their way to Yorktown, partly by land and partly down the Chena peaks. The whole, together with a body of Virginia militia, commanded by General Nelson, amounting in the aggregate to about twelve thousand men Trendezvouse iamsburg on the 25th of September, and on th. 28th they moved down to the investure of Yorktown. The French fleet at the same time moved to the mouth of York river, and took a position which was calculated to prevent Cornwallis either from retreating or receiving succor by water. The combined army encaraged about two miles from the works of the British; but nothing material happened on this day, either within or without the lines. On the same evening Lord Cornwalls received despatches from the British Commauder-in-Cuie at New York, in which he was informed that upwards of board the King's ships, that every exercise would be